

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGADISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Smuggling of Diamonds in Madhya Pradesh

4893. SHRI RAM BADAN: SHRI DAVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale smuggling of diamonds in Madhya Pradesh particularly in Panna district;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard;

(c) the quantity and value of diamond seized during the years 1989, 1990 and 1991; and

(d) the number of persons arrested for smuggling diamonds during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) and (b). Smuggling is a clandestine activity and hence it is not possible to estimate the quantum of smuggling. However, available reports do not indicate any large scale smuggling of diamonds in Madhya Pradesh and particularly in Panna district.

(c) The value of diamonds seized in the country by all the agencies under the Customs Act during 1989, 1990 and 1991 are Rs. 4.91, Rs. 4.37 and Rs. 9.52 crores respectively. Figures of quantity of diamonds

seized during the last 3 years are not available.

(d) Separate figures of persons arrested in connection with smuggling of diamonds are not being maintained.

[English]

Closure of M.S.K. Mills at Gulbarga

4894. DR. B.G. JAWALI. Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether weaving section of the M. S. K. Mills at Gulbarga in Karnataka is proposed to be closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of workers likely to be retrenched; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to rehabilitate the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Privatisation of General Insurance Corporation

4895. SHRI RAM NITHORE RAI: SHRI M. V. V S MURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to privatise the General Insurance Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?